



"STILL SERVING"

WINTER 2012/SPRING 2013 - DIRECTORATE OF HUMAN RESOURCES - RETIREE NEWSLETTER
U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE, FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905

Issue No. 1

Expires November 2013

November 2012

**Retiree Appreciation Day
(RAD) Activities
November 2, 2012**

*You and your family
are cordially invited
Look inside for details*

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Department of the Army
Retirement Services Office
Post Office Box 52373
Fort Benning, GA 31995-2373



Dear Alumni:

You and your family are cordially invited to attend the 2012 Retiree Appreciation Day which will be held Friday, November 2, 2012. You are a valuable asset to our total Army, whom we owe gratitude for long and faithful service. As a small token of our appreciation for your continued interest and support, we have designed this program with you in mind.

Your attendance at this year's military Retiree Appreciation Day will make this event a huge success and will ensure continued support for the future. The agenda and registration forms are enclosed in this newsletter.

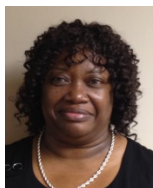
You are a very important and vital part of the Army family, and we value your unwavering support of the active force. Please join us and bring your family and friends.

Sincerely,

Donny B. Philips

Donny B. Philips
Deputy Chief, Military Personnel
Division

FROM YOUR RSO



Greetings! The time has come to celebrate you, the retiree, during the 2012 Annual Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) at Fort Benning, Georgia. This year, we are privileged to have two Guest Speakers, Mr. McKenna (RET), Director, Retired and Annuitant Pay, who will provide information concerning retired pay areas that have a lot of interest in the military retired community, i.e. Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC) and Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP). Also we will have a Senior Legislator Director from National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS). As your Retirement Services Officer, I look forward to meeting and greeting you at this year's event. This is my ninth year as your Retirement Services Officer and I look forward to many, many more years. I will be celebrating 30 years as a civil service employee on 23 October 2012.

Please take advantage of the valuable information concerning your benefits at <https://www.armyg1.army.mil>. If you have any questions, please contact me at (706) 545-1805 or email to usarmy.benning.imcom.mbx.q1hrd-rso@mail.mil

Verna Clemons

Below provides information on this year's Retiree Appreciation Day events. Please ensure you pre-register for the activities.

RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY SCHEDULE

2 November 2012	Friday
0630 - 0700	Breakfast and Early Lunch Registration , The Benning Conference Center
0700 - 0715	Load Buses
0715 - 0730	Enroute to 198 th Infantry Brigade
0730 - 0830	Breakfast with the Soldiers
0830 - 0845	Load Buses
0845 - 0900	Morning event to be determined
0900 - 1100	Morning event to be determined
1100 - 1115	Load Buses
1115 - 1130	Enroute to The Benning Conference Center
1130 - 1145	Lunch and Pre-Registration Verification
1145 - 1300	Lunch and Guest Speaker Program
1300 - 1330	Door Prize Drawings
1330 - 1600	County/Benefit/Health Fair

POTENTIAL LODGING GUESTS: Please contact the Fort Benning Lodging Office at 706-689-0067 or 1-800-GOARMY1 to check the availability of rooms.

You should also contact the local hotels for lodging assistance.

***The County/Benefit/Health Fair will begin upon completion of the Door Prize Drawings.

MAIL REGISTRATION FORM TO THE
RETIREE COUNCIL ASSOCIATION
NLT 12 October 2012
P.O. BOX 52373
FORT BENNING, GA 31995-2373

MILITARY PERSONNEL DIVISION INFORMATION



Identification Card Appointments

Identification Card:

The installation ID Card Section operates via an appointment only system. All Military ID cards, including those for Family Members, can be renewed 90 days prior to expiration date. Please schedule an appointment to renew your card soon after you've reached that 90-day point. This will ensure your card will not expire before it can be renewed.

Please use our on-line appointment system at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil>. You will be able to see all future appointment dates and times that are available and select the appointment that best meets your needs. An appointment is required for each family member that you plan to bring. If you do not have access to the Internet, then the telephone appointment line is 706 545-9085 or 706 545-4068. Please understand that the telephone wait time for customer service assistance may be lengthy.

We have a limited number of emergency same-day appointments. We open the requests for these appointments at 0800. Emergency same-day appointments are normally scheduled after 1400 that afternoon and are given on a case-by-case basis.

We want you to be prepared to receive your new ID card when you come to your appointment. There is required documentation you must bring to renew or to be issued an ID card, CAC card, or to enroll a Family Member in DEERS. These documents must be original or certified true copies. Below is a list of the most common documents you will need..

- a. Identification: Must have two forms of identification and at least one must be a Picture ID from a local, state or government agency (i.e. military ID, driver's license, or passport). The second form can be another of the above, or a Social Security card, original or certified birth certificate or school ID. If you're unsure about having the proper ID, call us. (706) 545-9085/4068.
- b. Social security card or letter from the Social Security Administration Office. The letter must include your Social Security number
- c. Divorce decree signed by the judge with legible file numbers.
- d. Marriage and Birth Certificate: Must be original document with seal intact.
- e. Adding Stepchildren: In order to add a stepchild into DEERS, we must have the original marriage certificate (even if the mother is enrolled in DEERS); original birth certificate, original social security card or letter from Social Security Administration Office.
- f. Power of Attorneys (if sponsor not available): Must be original with raised seal. Special POA must specify for DEERS enrollment/update and ID card issuance.
- g. For Common Access Card (CAC), civilians, contract employees, and military personnel must have valid AKO accounts. Contract employees must be entered into the Contractor Verification System (CVS) in order to be issued a CAC.
- h. Students over 21 years of age: Must provide proof from an accredited university, or college registrar office or national student clearinghouse at <http://www.studentclearinghouse.org>, verifying they are enrolled full time in a degree program and must include the anticipated graduation date.

i. Sponsor must accompany the eligible recipient unless they have a Power of Attorney (POA).

DoD Retired Civilian Identification Card:

Many retired DoD civilians have no way of identifying their association with the Department of Defense. The Civilian Retiree Card provides them with a trusted credential to establish their identity and affiliation. Some military installations allow retired civilians access to MWR facilities. The Retired Civilian ID Card will be issued to DoD civilian employees who retire from any DoD service component or agency. All data must be previously input through Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC), must have SF 50 and two (2) valid unexpired forms of identification. Civilian retirees from other Federal agencies are not eligible. Family members are not eligible. The card will be issued upon receipt of your DoD retirement pay. To obtain your card, please use our on-line appointment system at <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil> or schedule an appointment by calling 706 545-4068/9085.

Please remember, installation commanders retain the authority to restrict access to MWR facilities for reasons such as local demand, facility capacity, and security concerns.

The Main Post ID Card Section is located in Bldg 2638, Soldiers' Plaza, off Dixie Road. It is very important that you make an appointment. Our goal is to service customers with appointments within 10 minutes of their appointment time.

Hours of operation are 0800-1200, 1300-1630, Monday through Friday. The phone numbers to contact for questions/appointments are 706-545-4068/9085. The section is closed on all holidays and training holidays. More information on ID cards can be found on the Military Personnel Division website at <http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/DHR/PersonnelServices.htm>

CASUALTY ASSISTANCE OFFICE

TIPS FOR SURVIVORS UPON YOUR DEATH

Although it may not be something you want to talk about, being prepared can be very helpful to your Survivor. You should keep the following documents or information readily available in a safe place.

Marriage Information

Marriage Certificate
Divorce Decree

Children Information (If applicable)

Names
Date of Birth
Social Security Number
Adoption Papers (if applicable)
Birth Certificate
Phone Numbers
Address

Insurance

Copy of Policy or Policy Number
Phone Number to Insurance Agent/Company

Long Term Care Insurance

Copy of Policy or Policy Number

Investments

IRAs
CDs
Mutual Fund

Bank Information

Bank Name
Checking/Saving Account Numbers
Routing Numbers
Phone Number

Creditors

Have a listing of all creditors
Account numbers for all creditors
Balance Due for all debt

Burial Information

Funeral Home
Internment Location
Information concern burial pick (if applicable)
Memorial Service
Confirm with Funeral Home if Military Funeral Honors Support is desired

Will

Location of Will
Living Will

Safe Deposit Box

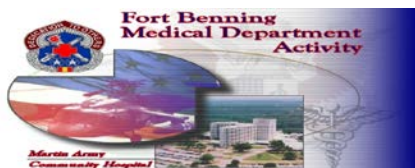
Name of Bank where safe deposit box is located
Location of key to safe deposit box

Other Important Documents

DD Form 214
DD Form 215 (if applicable)
Retiree Death Certificate
Retirement Orders
Survivor Benefit Election
Current Retired Pay Statement

Casualty Assistance Center Points of Contact

Chief, Casualty Assistance Center	706-545-7116
Casualty Operations Coordinators	706-545-4026/2710
Casualty Benefits Coordinator	706-545-4347
Casualty Training Coordinator	706-545-1917
Memorial Affairs Coordinator	706-545-4116/4606
Mortuary Affairs Coordinator	706-545-6346



MARTIN ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

7950 Martin Loop, Fort Benning, GA 31905
Contact: Terry Beckwith, 706-544-4276
Public Affairs Officer

Hospital Appointment line – 706-544-2273: Information Desk – 24/7, 706-544-2041/2042

HEALTH CARE

If you have any questions reference healthcare benefits or problems with your claims you may contact Martin Army Community Hospital's Health Benefits Advisors: Nancy Lance at (706) 544-1347 or Angela Quillen at (706) 544-3461. Their offices are located in the building next to the hospital (Bldg 9204, Stairwell D, Rooms 106b and 106 C). Hours of Operation are 0800-1630, Monday-Friday excluding Federal Holidays.

VERIFYING DEERS INFORMATION

You can verify DEERS information by contacting your service's personnel office, or by visiting <http://milconnect.dmdc.mil>.

NOTE: Providers are legally permitted to copy military and dependent ID cards to document TRICARE eligibility.

UPDATING DEERS INFORMATION

Once you and your family are registered in DEERS, be sure to keep addresses and other contact information up to date for all family members. Keeping DEERS information current, is critical to ensuring uninterrupted TRICARE coverage for you and your family. Family members age 18 or older may update their own contact information. Promptly update your information when any change occurs, regardless of status.

You can update your contact information:

- . Online: <http://milconnect.dmdc.mil>
- . By phone: 1-800-538-9552
- . By fax: 1-831-655-8317
- . By mail: Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office
400 Gigling Road
Seaside, CA 93955-6771
- . In person: Visit a uniformed services ID card-issuing facility

Using milConnect

Eligible TRICARE beneficiaries can use the milConnect portal at <http://milconnect.dmdc.mil> to update and view DEERS information. You can access your contact information, health and dental enrollments, personnel information, electronic correspondence, Service members' Group Life Insurance, and other benefits, including transferring education benefits. You can log on to milConnect's secure site using a Common Access Card (CAC), Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) user name and password, or a Department of Defense Self-Service (DS) Logon. You may visit a TRICARE Service Center or a Veterans Affairs Regional Office to complete the required in-person proofing process to request a DS Logon. For more information, go to "Frequently Asked Questions" at www.dmdc.osd.mil/dsaccess. If you need new uniformed services ID card, you can visit an ID card-issuing facility and request a DS Logon at the same time you are getting your new card.

DEERS VERIFICATION FOR UNREMARIED FORMER SPOUSES

If you are an un-remarried former spouse, DEERS reflects TRICARE eligibility using your own Social Security number (SSN) or Department of Defense Benefits Number (DBN), not your former sponsor's. Health care information is filed under your own SSN or DBN and name, and you will use your own SSN or DBN and name to schedule medical appointments and file TRICARE claims.

Monthly Explanation of Benefits Statements:

Beginning April 1, 2012 you should have began to receive a monthly Explanation of Benefits (EOB) that summarizes all claims activity for the time period. This new document replaced the statements that were sent as individual claims. Both individual and summary EOBs are always available online for your review at www.myTRICARE.com. You may also choose to receive EOBs electronically by registering at www.myTRICARE.com and updating your communication preferences

after signing in. This will allow you to access claim information and view claims status at any time

TRICARE Prime Enrollment Fee Payments:

Checks will be accepted for initial TRICARE Prime enrollment fees only. Recurring fee payments for TRICARE Prime will only be accepted by credit card or a monthly automated deduction. This change will eliminate the need for you to remember to pay your quarterly fee. The easiest method is to choose the pay allotment and have the payment automatically deducted each month or do an Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT).



Uchee Creek Army Campground and Marina

Are you taking advantage of the health benefits available to you at the Fort Benning fitness centers? Smith Fitness Center offers fun fitness classes, including yoga, dance, cycling, water aerobics and more, for all ages and experience. Many of our military retirees prefer the privacy of Santiago Fitness Center on Sand Hill, and those who prefer functional training enjoy the kettle bells, tires, rip trainers and agility equipment at the Audie Murphy Fitness Center. Decide for yourself! Check them all out at benningMWR.com.

Win up to \$10,000 in **Super Bingo** the first Saturday of every month! Doors open at 1pm and the games start at 1:30pm, but you can drop in any time. Enjoy a free buffet and win up to \$10K! Pins and Daubers Bingo is located on Marne Road next to the commissary mall.

Uchee Creek hosts regular archery competitions. These events start at 9am. Register at the Country Store or call 706-685-3060, ext 201 or 202. The cost is \$15 for those who hold an annual pass and \$18 for others. These events are open to the public.

MWR's Outdoor Recreation will host **Family Fishing Night at Russ Park** from 6-8pm on September 18. This is a free family event. Bring your own pole or reserve one by calling 706-545-7978. Fishing at Russ Park is restricted to those 15 and younger, but grandparents, parents and siblings are always encouraged to help.

Putt up or shut up! Test your golf game in the **Fort Benning Golf Scramble** at the Fort Benning Golf Course on Sept. 28 and Oct 25. Register your team of four today by calling 706-687-1940. Entry fee is \$30 in advance and \$35 the day of the event. For start times, call 706-687-1940.

It's time to make your vacation reservation at Fort Benning's **Destin Resort**. Call 850-837-6423 or join us on Facebook.

Uchee Creek hosts fishing tournaments the third Saturday of each month, with pot payouts for overall winners and Big Fish winners. Boats are available for rent on site. Participants must have a Georgia/Alabama fishing license. The entry fee is \$40 per boat and \$15 for the Big Fish contest. Register at the Uchee Creek Country Store or online at benningMWR.com. For more information, call 706-685-3060, ext 200, 201 or 202.

MWR's Outdoor Recreation will host free campouts at Kings Pond September 15 and November 3. These events begin at noon Saturday and end Sunday morning. ODR will provide free canoes, kayaks, games and more until 5pm. To reserve your spot and camping supplies, call 706-545-7978.

Plan now for the biannual Fort Benning Flea Market, scheduled for 8am to 2pm on September 8 on York Field. Vendors may reserve spaces, starting at \$15, at benningmwr.com. You must register by September 4. Chairs and table are also available. This popular event draws thousands of shoppers from on post and off, so please do not delay, as vendor space must be limited to 250. For more information, call 706-545-7978.

Join us for a Movie Under the Stars Sept. 14, 21 and 28 at Fort Benning's Wetherby Field off Custer Road. This free event will feature popular movies fit for all ages, but children 16 and younger must have adult supervision. We'll announce movie titles really soon, we promise. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, but leave your four-legged family members at home. Refreshments will be available for purchase. (Thank you, Dusty Bob's Funnel Cakes!!)

LEGAL SERVICES



GENERAL INFORMATION: (706) 545-3281
HOURS OF OPERATION: 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Thursday and 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Friday.
Office is closed on Federal Holidays and Training Holidays

LOCATION: The OSJA Legal Assistance and Claims Divisions are now located on Main Post, Building 2839, 6450 Way Avenue.
The **Installation Tax Center** has relocated to this building (Open from Jan-May or by appointment).

"Retirees and their family members should take the opportunity afforded by the annual Retiree Appreciation Day to review their personal legal affairs. Many legal experts say that such a review should be conducted once a year, to ensure that legal difficulties can be minimized or prevented altogether."

Services: Military retirees and their family members are entitled to free advice and assistance on many types of personal legal issues. Notarizations and Powers of Attorney are prepared on a walk-in basis during normal hours of operation. All other services are by appointment. Call (706) 545-3681 during duty hours for an appointment. Some of the most common legal issues are:

a. Identity Theft: A person's social security number can be used to fraudulently obtain credit cards and consumer loans in that person's name. Everyone is advised to check their credit report at least once a year, and contact the Legal Assistance Office at their local Office of the Staff Judge Advocate located on their nearest military installation if there are indications of identity theft.

b. Income Taxes: All taxpayers need to report their annual income by filing State and Federal income taxes. Retirees are eligible to have their State and Federal income taxes prepared and filed on their behalf by their local military installation's Tax Center. These services, to include electronic filing, are free.

c. Consumer Law: Consumers need to read everything they are asked to sign, including the "fine print" found in most contracts. It may be too late to dispute something once you have signed it, so questions or concerns about the language in a contract should be answered at Legal Assistance BEFORE the contract is signed.

d. Real Estate: Many husbands and wives believe that they are 50-50 owners of their house, but are they really? Too often we find out that they are not. If the necessary legal language is missing from the deed for the property you may not have joint ownership of the property. The only way to know for certain is to review the deed itself, and an attorney at the Legal Assistance Office can review the deed and assist homeowners who want to transfer the property into joint ownership.

e. Advance Medical Directive: Often called a "living will," an advance medical directive (AMD) is a legal document regarding health care decisions that a person makes for the possible event that he or she will not be able to speak for him or herself. Depending on state law, some AMDs contain statements by the person, such as "I do (or do not) want hydration," while some states require appointing someone to make such decisions.

f. Power of Attorney: A power of attorney (POA) is a legal document that gives one person the authority to act on behalf of someone else. There are two different types of POAs, a General POA and a Special POA. A General POA gives the person named in the document the right to do anything, such as buy a house, sell a car, or withdraw money from a bank account. A Special POA gives someone the right to do one thing and nothing more, such as register a vehicle. Because POAs have a fixed expiration date, they must be renewed periodically. Unlike a POA, a will never expires, but it should be checked from time to time to make sure it still accurately reflects the desires of the person who made the will. Will worksheets are available online.

g. Last Will and Testament: A will is a legal document that indicates who you want to receive your property in the event that you pass away.

h. Additional information is available on line at:
<https://www.benning.army.mil/SJA/>



DID YOU KNOW AER CAN ASSIST RETIREES

Provide Emergency Assistance for Loss of Income
LOST OR STOLEN FUNDS (Police Report Required)
UTILITIES PAYMENT (To prevent termination)
RENT/MORTGAGE (To prevent eviction)
Essential EMERGENCY TRAVEL (Verified By the Red Cross)
CLOTHING (Replacement after disaster i.e. Fire, Flood)

Emergency Assistance with FOOD (To prevent Privation)
Emergency MEDICAL/DENTAL (Can assist with amount not covered by insurance)

Widows of Retirees are also eligible for AER Assistance
**Pick up an application and receive detailed instructions at
Patch Hall, Building 7, 7117 Baltzell Avenue (706)545-7517/4043**
For more information on additional AER Programs visit

www.aerhq.org



**Army Retiree Motto:
"Retired....Still Serving"**

Opportunities to Still Serve Include:

- **Installation Retiree Councils**
- **CSA Retiree Council**

Recent Council Reports available at:
<https://www.armyg1.army.mil/retire>



For more information on becoming a member of the Retiree Council, please contact the following retirees:

CPT (Ret) Willie Wingfield, Jr.
Albany, Georgia - (229) 432-5533

COL (Ret) Howard Floyd
Southwest, Georgia- (478) 405-7147

SSG (Ret) James Avrett, Jr.
Macon, Georgia – (478) 929-0974

COL (Ret) Biff Hadden
Columbus, Georgia – (706)615-2455

Vacant
Atlanta/Northwest, Georgia

RETIREMENT SERVICES OFFICE NEW HOURS OF OPERATIONS

Telephone numbers: 706-545-1805/2715/1828

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday
0830 -1130 hrs (appointment only)
1430 – 1630 hrs (walk- ins only)

Tuesday – Closed all day for Pre-Retirement
Briefing and Post Retirement Ceremony

Friday – 0830 - 1130 hrs (SBP Appointments
only)
1300 - 1700 (closed for Admin/
Training Time)

**RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY WILL BE
CONDUCTED AT THE BENNING
CONFERENCE CENTER
BUILDING 128, MORRISON AVENUE
FORT BENNING, GA 31905**

2012 MILITARY RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY REGISTRATION

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT - Authority: USC Section 3012 and E09307. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: To provide information used in registering attendees. ROUTINE USES: Copies of this application will be used by Retirement Services Office for the purpose of processing application for Retiree Appreciation Day attendance. DISCLOSURE: Voluntary. Please complete each section as it pertains to you. If, after registration, circumstances prevent you from attending, notify us immediately. **Retirement Services** telephone number is **(706) 545-1805**. **We will not be able to accept cancellations after 12 Oct 2012** because we must give an accurate count to the caterer for Friday's luncheon.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)</u>	<u>()</u> <u>Telephone Number</u>
<u>Mailing Address (P.O. Box or Street Address)</u>		<u>City, State</u> <u>Zip Code</u>
<u>Distance (in miles) from Home to Fort Benning Retiree Activities</u> <u>(Write in mileage)</u>		
<u>Email Address:</u> STATUS: () Retiree () Spouse () Widow(er)		
<u>Retirement Date</u>	<u>Birth Date</u>	HANDICAP: CIRCLE YES or NO
WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS NEEDED: CIRCLE YES or NO		

Administrative Fee is \$5.00 per person for the duration of the Retiree Activities

Friday, 2 November 2012

() 7:00 a.m. Bus Transportation to 198th Infantry Brigade.

() 7:30 a.m. Breakfast with Soldiers: Number of Persons attending - for planning purposes (#) _____ @ 2.45 each

Breakfast must be paid in advance. Please include price in check.

() 11:45 a.m. Lunch at The Benning Conference Center: Number of Persons attending (#) _____ @ 11.00 each
Check for \$ _____ enclosed - **by 12 October 2012**

Lunch menu this year will be: Baked Chicken, Blended Vegetables, Mashed Potato & Gravy, Rolls, Assorted Cakes and Iced Tea

*****Please write in the total number of person who will be attending below:

Check/Money Order enclosed for:		FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Breakfast (2.45 per person)	\$ _____	Date Registration Received: _____	
Lunch (\$11.00 per person)	\$ _____	Amount of Payment Received: _____	
Administrative Fee (\$5 per person)	\$ _____	Circle Form of Payment Received: Check Money Order Cash	
Total: () Check () Money Order () Cash	\$ _____	Record Number (s) in Database: _____	

ALL REGISTRATIONS APPLICATIONS MUST ARRIVE AT THIS OFFICE NOT LATER THAN 12 October 2012.

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: RETIREE COUNCIL ASSOCIATION

MAIL YOUR REGISTRATION TO: RETIREE COUNCIL ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 52373, FORT BENNING, GA 31995-2373